

PATENT APPLICATION

Docket Number: 041535-0307874

Client Reference: 145419US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

KAZUHIRO SHIBA, et al.

Group Art Unit: 3722

Application No.: 10/767,264

Examiner: E. Cadugan

Filed: January 30, 2004

Confirmation No.: Unassigned

For: LINEAR GUIDE APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the reference(s) has been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

The cited references were first cited in an Office Action issued February 23, 2005 by the German Patent Office in the corresponding German patent application. A copy of this Office Action is attached for the Examiner's information.

English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date: May 4, 2005

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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

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Substitute	for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known		
022001210				Application Number	10/767,264	
INFO	DRMATION DIS	CLOS	URE	Filing Date	01/30/2004	
	TEMENT BY AF			First Named Inventor	KAZUHIRO SHIBA	
UIA	TEMENT DI A			Art Unit	3722	
	(Use as many sheets as nec	cessary)		Examiner Name	E. Cadugan	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	041535-0307874	

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
	NO.	Number-Kind Code ^{2 (If known)}	MM-DD-1111	Applicant of Cited Document			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1				Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T⁵
		DE	4438948	A1	05/1996	Bode		
		DE	19738987	A1	09/1998	Klein, et al.		<u> </u>
		DE	19544534	A1	06/1997	Helmreich		<u> </u>
		DE	19533077	C2	03/1996	Rotzetter		<u></u>

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Examiner		Date	
Signature		Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.